

MANY DEAD MAY BE UNDER THE RUINS.

Four Women at Least Known to Have Perished in Troy's Great Fire.

Huge Banks of Ice Will Prevent a Search for Bodies Until Warm Weather.

Thrilling Story of Rescues by a Brave Fire Laddie Who Saved Scores of Lives.

ALL MIGHT HAVE ESCAPED SAFELY.

Nearly Every Woman in the Factories Was Injured, and Hundreds of Hands Were Hurt by the Cold Iron Fire Escapes.

Troy, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Although the total number of victims of the Stettinmer Colar Factory fire was said to be only four to-night, it is generally believed that many more bodies are now buried under the ruins of the Burdette building, which was burned last night. The fire was practically under control at 10 o'clock last night, but the firemen were still pouring water on the ruins to-day, and to all appearances it looked as though the blaze would not be entirely extinguished for several days.

Whatever number of bodies there are in the ruins of the River street building will remain there until warmer weather comes, for the quantity of water that has been poured over the debris has formed hundreds of tons of ice that it would take workmen months to remove. Fire streams were still playing on the remains of the building this afternoon. In River street the ice sloped up to the second story cornice and the signs of the Western Union Telegraph Company and others were almost entirely hidden from view. The whole front of the burned building is so covered with ice that the only evidence of fire comes from inside the walls in the form of steam and smoke. The telegraph poles and wires in the street are also so coated with ice that they have either broken down or are barely holding up under the strain. One big pole carrying 100 wires had fallen early in the morning and lay across the street, almost entirely hidden by the ice. Another telegraph pole on the corner stood ready to fall at any minute under the weight of scores of ice-covered wires.

KNOWN TO BE DEAD.

The list of dead so far as can be learned to-night is Margaret Carroll, Jane Foley and Catherine Kane, all of whom jumped from the burning building, and Millie Brock, whose body is said to be in the ruins. Stettinmer & Co., who have an office a few doors below, caused an advertisement to be inserted in the local papers to-day, asking all employees to report at the office, or that their relatives or friends report whether or not they had returned home last night. At 6 o'clock it was said at Stettinmer & Co.'s office that the only person in their employ who had not been accounted for was Millie Brock. Miss Brock lived with her parents at No. 2311 Fifth avenue. It was said there tonight that she had not been home since she left for work yesterday morning. On the list of Stettinmer & Co.'s employees are several girls whose addresses are not known and until their friends make some report it cannot be determined whether they are safe or not.

As for the employees of Van Zandt, Jacobs & Co., no one seems to know whether they are all safe or not. The members of the firm declared to-day that all their employees had escaped, but they had made no canvass to determine this.

ALL MIGHT HAVE ESCAPED.

The building was about 100 feet wide by 150 feet deep, and the two top floors were divided in half by partitions running from the front to the rear. There were two sets of stairways in the building—one at the northern side and another on the southern. There were exits from both sides of the River street. The southern side of the fifth floor was used as a cutting room for J. Stettinmer, Jr., & Co., while the other side was used by Van Zandt, Jacobs & Co., collar and shirt manufacturers. The sixth floor was used entirely as a sewing room by Stettinmer & Co. Van Zandt, Jacobs & Co. occupied the third and fourth floors, and the rest of the building was used for offices and stores. In the partitions on the fifth and sixth floors, there were two and three doors, respectively, which were to be used in case of fire.

When the fire broke out yesterday afternoon the women and girls rushed for the front windows instead of going to the stairway on the northern side.

Nearly every one of the women in the Stettinmer and Van Zandt factories received some injury. They were either burned about the face or face or hurt themselves in getting down the fire escapes. The intense cold made the iron bars on the fire escapes so cold that when the women and girls tried to grasp them on the bars the skin of the hands was torn off. Many who were otherwise uninjured went home with the palms of their hands raw that they would be unable to do any work for many weeks to come.

SAVED BY A BRAVE FIREMAN.

At least two-thirds of the women and girls who were rescued owe their escape to fireman John J. Farrell, of Reed Engine Company, who climbed up to the fifth floor and lifted them one after the other from the windows of the burning building, which they were directed safely to the sidewalk. Farrell drove a hose cart to the fire and when he pulled up in front of the building he could see scores of women and girls in the top floor windows. He jumped from the hose cart and ran up the northern stairway to the second floor, where he met W. C. Geer, an insurance agent, who has an office in the building. He asked Geer to follow him to the second floor, where he found the women and girls. There Farrell found the fire escape jammed with young girls. Angust Hubrich, a foreman in Stettinmer's factory, was hanging on to the ladder and crying to the girls above him to go back. Farrell pulled Hubrich aside and pushed him through the window on the fifth floor. The landing was barely large enough to stand on and he had great difficulty in getting the first two or three girls off the ladder. Geer, who stood on the window sill, helped them into the room through which they ran to the northern stairway and thence down to the street.

There were at least thirty women and girls on the fire ladder and window sills when Farrell reached the fifth floor landing. The girls were all shrieking and crying. Some were standing on the fingers of the girls and others were hanging on to the ladder and crying to the girls above him to go back. Farrell reached there just in time to prevent two women from falling to their hold on the window sill. One was so near the escape ladder that she was rescued easily. The other one, a young girl named Lena Jarvis, was hanging from the sill of a window on the sixth floor. Farrell cried to her to hold on while he got the ladder. Then he went to work lifting off one girl at a time and pushing them through the window to the street.

GRETTED BY A MIGHTY CHIEF.

Finally he got up far enough to catch hold of Miss Jarvis's ankle. He pulled her foot over until it rested on one of the ladder bars, and then climbed up a little higher and caught hold of her left arm. Looking his legs around the bars of the ladder he reached both arms out and lifted Miss Jarvis to safety. The crowd below in the street, which had been watching Farrell in breathless silence, broke into a mighty cheer.

The others were taken off the fire escapes



Scenes and Personages in the Fatal Troy Fire.

The Burdette building, on River street, which burned Monday afternoon, caused the death of at least four women, and many more are believed to be under the ruins. Owing to the huge mass of ice that has formed from water turned on by the firemen, the bodies in the ruins cannot be recovered until warmer weather sets in. Maltese cross indicates the window from which three girls leaped to their death. Scores of others were rescued by the bravery of Fireman J. J. Farrell, who, at the risk of his own life, lifted them to places of safety.

very easily, after which Farrell went through parts of both the fifth and sixth floors calling out to find if any had been left. He was finally driven out by the flames and slid down to the fire ladder.

Charles Jefferson, who it was thought had struck the match that started the fire, had a narrow escape. The doors to the elevator shaft are swinging doors. He was standing at the open elevator door on the sixth floor when a current of air blew the door shut and knocked him off into the shaft. He caught the elevator rope and slid down to the first floor.

Deputy Factory Inspector Divine visited the scene of the fire to-day. He said that he had inspected the Burdette building two weeks ago and had ordered some repairs on the stairway. If the girls had all gone to the northern side and the stairs on the first floor had escaped uninjured.

The bodies of the three women who were killed were taken charge of by their relatives to-day and will be buried on Thursday.

Mamie Rourke, who was made temporarily insane while trying to escape from the fire, was greatly improved to-day. Dr. Brown, who is attending her, said that she would recover in a few days.

The loss will aggregate or perhaps exceed \$200,000.

ANOTHER DISASTROUS FIRE.

Apollo Hall, at the corner of Congress and River streets, was also the scene of a disastrous fire this afternoon. The fire was discovered at 3:45 o'clock by Major I. F. Handy, who was passing on a street car and saw smoke pouring from a window in the second story on the River street side. It seemed but a few seconds after the discovery of the fire before the entire upper story was a mass of flames. The flames seemed to fairly leap through the building so rapid was their progress. The hall was completely gutted and the stores on the first floor were deluged by a flood of water from above.

Two small children were taken from apartments on the second floor by the firemen shortly after the fire started. The damage will aggregate about \$75,000. The building, which was erected in 1848 and has been the scene of several fires, is owned by Thomas McLaughlin, who occupies part of the first floor as a restaurant. The loss will be about \$30,000. The fire started under the stage in the hall and was caused by a boy dropping a lighted match in a heap of rubbish.

YALE SOCIETIES IN A FIGHT.

Failure of the Secret Organizations to Get Control of the News.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 18.—The newly elected Editorial Board of the Yale News has chosen as managing editors Albert E. Kerr, of Washington, and George P. Day, of New York City. It is customary to have only one managing editor, but the Board met last night and had a deadlock, lasting several hours. More than fifty votes were taken, and a compromise was effected by electing both as associate editors.

The rivalry between the two was that of the secret societies against non-secret societies at Yale, Day being the society and Kerr the popular candidate. Kerr is son of James Kerr, Clerk of the House of Representatives at the last session. Fred T. Murphy, the football player, was chosen business manager for the year.

The Lalor Case Postponed.

There was to have been a further examination of Mrs. Mary Lalor, accused of the murder of her son, William E. Lalor, and John P. Fleischner, the alleged accomplice yesterday, in Long Island City, but word was sent to Justice Ingram that it would be impossible for Expert Scheele to be present. The case was postponed till Tuesday next.

EGLAU'S BLOOD ON CUFFS AND SHOES.

Professor Scheele's Analysis of the Stains Shows a Startling Condition of Affairs.

Smears on the Fitzgeralds' Soles May Have Been Made for a Purpose.

BLOOD STAINS WERE NOT SOAKED IN.

Police Advised to Have the Clothing of Every Person Connected with the Institution Examined Microscopically.

The investigation prosecuted in the endeavor to solve the Eglau murder mystery took a sensational turn yesterday after the chemist employed to examine the blood stains made his report. The officers state that the expert whose services they have secured is Dr. Walter T. Scheele, who has been of great assistance to the police authorities in many other noted cases. The statement of the scientist may lead to developments altogether unanticipated.

Dr. Scheele is positive that the blood on the cuffs found in the basement is identical with the blood found in the spots on the floor of the studio. He is sure, too, that it was human blood the detectives scraped from Willie Fitzgerald's shoes. He asserts, with stern conviction, that the blood taken from the shoes is precisely like the blood on the cuffs and the blood in the studio.

More important than these facts, though, is the announcement that, in the opinion of the chemist, the blood on the shoes was not soaked into them, but taken when in a partially coagulated state, and smeared on the sides. This leads to the theory that there has been a deliberate attempt made by some most painstaking person to throw suspicion on the Fitzgeralds and to use them as scapegoats, notwithstanding that the possible penalty for the crime that has been charged against these boys is death.

Dr. Scheele was given all the material in the possession of the police, and gathered more evidence himself. He had the bloody cuffs, the handkerchief and about two score samples taken in the studio and modeling room and in the hallway leading from them. Some of the blood was taken from the walls, from the floor, and even from the pedestal that was knocked over in the struggle that probably ended with the death of the old drawing master.

TEIRA COTTA AND BLOOD STAINS.

The examination of the cuffs showed that

some of the spots on them were blood stains and some were made with terra cotta. A terra cotta powder is used in the modelling room, and when mixed with water it looks much like blood. The blood stains were in about such places as might be reached by the thumb and fingers of a man who might be taking the cuffs of his wrists. The terra cotta spots were in the middle of the cuffs. There were also blood stains along the outer edge of each cuff.

It had been thought there was no blood on the handkerchief, but Dr. Scheele's examination showed blood stains on it. The blood had been diluted with water as if the murderer had wet a bloody knife and then wiped it on the handkerchief.

The scrapings from the soles of the Fitzgeralds' shoes indicated that the blood had scarcely penetrated beyond the surface of the leather. The chemist concluded that if the shoes had been in the blood for even an instant, the fire would have followed the pores further into the leather. Dr. Scheele was sure the blood had been rubbed over the soles of the shoes; for what purpose he did not try to tell the police.

The measurement of the blood spots in the rooms where the murder was done and the critical examination of them convinced the expert that the hand which left a tracing on a table in the modelling room was either the hand of a very small man, who did no work to speak of, or the hand of a boy, nineteen or twenty years old. The marks on the floor near the place where the body was found the Doctor thought were made by Eglau himself in his attempts to rise.

SHOULD EXAMINE ALL CLOTHING.

The recommendations made by Chemist Scheele have been submitted to Captain O'Brien, who will decide whether it is advisable to follow them out. The expert advised the police to have the clothing of every man who might have been in the modelling studio on the day of the murder, examined scientifically.

Dr. Scheele told the officers that no man, no matter how prominent in the institution for deaf and dumb, should be excepted from a most searching examination. The expert told the officers they should have all spots on the clothing of every person in the institution examined with a microscope.

Dr. Scheele in establishing the fact that the blood secured from various places was all probably from Eglau's wounds, secured crystals of haematin and compared their forms. These crystals show whether the blood comes from an old or young person and tell many other things to the scientific microscopist.

The detectives tried to learn who wrote the anonymous letter to Mrs. Fitzgerald yesterday, but none of the servants in the institution could identify the handwriting. This anonymous letter charged "Joe" with the murder, but the police take no stock in the officers' theory that the letter was written by some envious domestic who had a grudge to Mr. Lawyer Fromme, on the other hand, thinks the letter was written by a man.

The officers—a new set of them—have examined the blood spots in the studio in the last two days. The detectives differ in their opinions, but most of them agree that the hand-print in blood on the table must have been made by a boy's palm, thumb and fingers.

A new theory has been brought forward by Professor Blumendorf, who now holds that any person could have entered the institution from the Sixty-seventh street side, committed the murder, hid the cuffs and purse where they were found and gone out again the way he came. The professor says the door on the Sixty-seventh street side was often left open.

Professor Greene sent for the detectives once yesterday, but it was only to inform them that another blood spot had been found. The spot was examined by Dr. Scheele. It is in the hall outside the studio. The officers have not yet been able to learn who did the thieving within the school. Some of the thefts were committed more than two years ago. The watchman, "Joe," has been with the institution just two years, according to the latest statement made to the detectives.

The story told by Willie Stern, the mute, has been investigated by the men from Headquarters, who have found that a man going up the fire escape would throw such a shadow on the curtain as the boy described.

The inquest has been set for next Monday by Coroner Fitzpatrick. The object of the postponement is to give the jury still more time to investigate, for despite all the theories, and even the chemist's examinations, the mystery seems almost as dark as it did at the first.

SUING FOR LOST AFFECTIONS.

A California Woman Wants \$25,000 from Her Husband's Parents.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 18.—Mrs. Belle F. Lovett has sued her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Lovett, of Boston, for \$25,000 damages, for alienating the affections of her husband, Albert H. Lovett, their son.

Mrs. Lovett is the daughter of a prominent Sacramento newspaper man, while her husband is also a journalist, with a mania for marrying, as he has alternated between the altar and divorce courts several times.

Young Mrs. Lovett alleges that her mother-in-law, who is a wealthy resident of Beacon street, Boston, exercised the same restraint upon her son after his marriage as before and that he finally deserted her and is now living with his parents in Boston, while she is in a destitute condition in Los Angeles.

Washington Portraits for Public Schools.

The Washington Portrait Committee, of the Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution, will present framed copies of Gilbert Stuart's Athenaeum portrait of Washington to primary department, Grammer School No. 52, First avenue and Seventh street, this morning; to primary department, Grammer School No. 3, One Hundred and Forty-first street and Edgecombe avenue, on Thursday morning, and on Friday morning, to the boys' and girls' department of the same school. The committee has presented during the past year on behalf of the society 240 of these framed portraits of Washington to the various departments of the public schools of New York City.

PLUMS IN THE GREATER NEW YORK.

Platt's Plans Provide for Commissions to Govern the Big Municipality.

Consolidation Bill to Be Considered by the Lexow Sub-Committee This Afternoon.

MORTON'S WISHES NOT CONSIDERED.

States Have Already Been Made Up of the Men Who Will Constitute the Various Commissions—Lexow Report to Be Adopted.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 18.—The Greater New York bill is to be considered by the Lexow sub-committee to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. That means that the report which Mr. Lexow has had in his pocket for several weeks will be spread before the members of the sub-committee, who will adopt it, Senator Brand, Republican, from Kings; Assemblyman McKeown, of Kings, and Senator Grady, all probably dissenting and adopting a minority report.

There is no apparent reason for believing that the situation, which has been outlined before, has changed. Mr. Platt, of course, wants the Greater New York bill passed and some legislation enacted subsequently for the purpose of strengthening his hold upon the popular portion of the State. He stands in the way of the politicians of Kings County, headed by Mayor Wurstler. They wanted the question of consolidation re-submitted, or, if that is impossible, to secure the reference of the charter that may be prepared, to the citizens of the territory to be affected.

There are persons here who declare that Governor Morton has called a halt on the ground that Mr. Platt, if he is sincerely a critical time in the Governor's political history. There are still others who say that Mr. Platt's desire for political power is greater than any friendship which he may entertain for Governor Morton and that if it comes to a question of imperiling the political future of the Governor rather than give up a cherished hope of political power he would take a course resulting disastrous to the Governor.

The Platt programme as it now stands is to pass the Lexow Greater New York bill as soon as the chance can be found for safety. This bill provides for the consolidation of the involved territory in 1898, laws to be enacted in the meantime for the government of the various departments in the municipalities to be merged. Mr. Platt and his lieutenants are saying very little about what will happen after the Lexow bill is made a law. Under the surface, however, there is a vast amount of gossip as to the plums that will be distributed to the Platt men when the "Easy Bosses" great scheme is carried out.

GREAT PLUMS TO FALL.

It is unlikely that the Lexow Greater New York bill will be passed within the next four weeks, although Mr. Platt's plans are subject to change at a moment's notice. The bills providing for the appointment of State Commissions for the government of the municipalities to be merged of New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City will probably be held back until the next session, when they may be passed through the Legislature. It has been said for some time that the first and only bill to be passed after the passage of the Lexow Greater New York bill is the mu-

re providing for the appointment of a State commission for the direction of the Police, Fire and Health departments of New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City. But as the possibilities develop Mr. Platt's scheme enlarges.

It is Mr. Platt's evident desire to have every one of the municipal departments of the consolidated territory governed by a State Commissioner. He urges this plan upon the leading Republicans of the State upon the ground that the indications point to Democratic success at the polls next Fall, and that the administration of this large territory should be conserved to the Republican party. States are being prepared by the gossips who have implicit faith in Mr. Platt's power and the names of the New Yorkers suggested for the important places are all from among the Platt-Lauterbach faction, with but few exceptions.

The prospective State Commission for the government of the Police Department, as the gossips give it, is to consist of Frederick D. Grant, Andrew D. Parker, "Jake" Patterson and Charles H. Murray. Colonel Grant is selected for the purpose of lending respectability to the Commission, and Police Commissioner Parker is to hold over because he is counsel of the Greater New York Commission, is popular in the church work and is doing his best to prove the constitutionality and propriety of the Greater New York scheme.

Charles H. Murray goes on the Board for the presumptive reason that he was badly treated by Mayor Strong when Mr. Murray was requested to resign. "Jake" Patterson, who was also cruelly treated by Mayor Strong, has been a chronic place hunter for years, and his appointment would be a concession to the old school of Republicans in New York City.

BROOKLYN TO BE THEROWN A BONE.

Because of the fact that New York City alone will have representatives on the Police Board, Brooklyn, the gossips say, will have at least two, if not three, of the prospective Police Commissioners, while Cornelius Van Cott, who has been out of a political job for some time, is expected to be the Commissioner from New York. It is not certain what will be done with the law departments of the cities, but it is also to be conducted by a State Commissioner. It is said that the Attorney Boardman, of the firm of Tracy, Boardman & Platt, and "Abe" Gruber would be the associate directors of the department.

The Public Works Department, the gossips say, would be governed by a tripartite-headed Commission, under the direction of General Michael Kerwin, whom Mayor Strong turned out of office, and a successful contractor, and some one from Long Island City, not yet selected.

General Collis, who is now the Commissioner of Public Works of New York City, is said to be on probation. It is understood, however, that Mr. Platt much pleased at General Collis's vehement opposition to Millinard's suggestion for the Union League faction, built the Republican organization in New York County. It is possible, therefore, that the General might be carried over, as his Philadelphia training in the political school is known to have made him agile in leaping factional feuds.

All the gossips are agreed that Mr. Platt, if he is able to carry out the schemes outlined, will see to it that some law reorganizing the Street-Cleaning Department is passed, for the purpose of getting rid of Colonel Waring.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NEWS.

An organ recital will be given at St. Michael's Church, Amsterdam avenue and Ninety-ninth street, by Robert L. Winterbottom to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. This will be the first of a series of recitals to be given during Lent.

The third series of organ recitals by Sanford Latham Norcott will be given at the Junior Memorial Church this afternoon and February 25 and March 3. He will be assisted by Jessamine Hallenbeck, Percy Walling and W. M. Hamilton.

Washington's Birthday will be celebrated, from a theatrical standpoint, on Saturday, Valentine's houses have arranged for special programmes. At Doris's Gaiety Theatre several new features have been added to the regular bill. Next week, Mlle. Orlife is to be a prominent attraction.

For the first week of this season of grand opera in English at the Academy of Music, Mr. Damrosch announces "Fidelio" for the opening night, March 2. "Lohengrin" is to be given on Thursday, March 7, and "The Scarlet Letter" will be produced for the first time in this city March 9, and at the Academy matinees, March 7, "Siegfried" will be produced.

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